

DOCKET NO.: 213630US3XPCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: ITO Hisayoshi et al.

SERIAL NO.: NEW U.S. PCT APPLICATION

FILED: HERewith

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.: PCT/JP00/01490

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: March 10, 2000

FOR: STIRRED TANK FOR STORING YEAST SLURRY, METHOD OF MANUFACTURING
FERMENTED FOODS SUCH AS BEER USING THE STIRRED TANK, AND STIRRING
IMPELLER PROVIDED IN THE STIRRED TANK

REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF DOCUMENTS
CITED IN INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application for patent, notice is hereby given that applicant(s) request that the Examiner consider the documents cited in the International Search Report according to MPEP §609 and so indicate by a statement in the first Office Action that the information has been considered. When the Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicates both the search report and copies of the documents are present in the national stage file, there is no requirement for the applicant(s) to submit them (1156 O.G. 91 November 23, 1993).

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

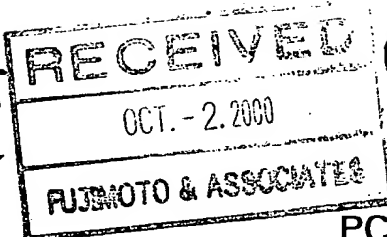


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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

WO 00/55295
PCT/JP00/01490

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

FUJIMOTO, Noboru
Nagahori Community Building 4F
5-8, Minami-semba 2-chome
Chuoh-ku, Osaka-shi
Osaka 542-0081
JAPONNOTICE INFORMING THE APPLICANT OF THE
COMMUNICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL
APPLICATION TO THE DESIGNATED OFFICES

(PCT Rule 47.1(c), first sentence)

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 21 September 2000 (21.09.00)		IMPORTANT NOTICE	
Applicant's or agent's file reference 000308P488			
International application No. PCT/JP00/01490	International filing date (day/month/year) 10 March 2000 (10.03.00)	Priority date (day/month/year) 12 March 1999 (12.03.99)	
Applicant SHINKO PANTEC CO., LTD. et al			

1. Notice is hereby given that the International Bureau has communicated, as provided in Article 20, the international application to the following designated Offices on the date indicated above as the date of mailing of this Notice:

AU,US

In accordance with Rule 47.1(c), third sentence, those Offices will accept the present Notice as conclusive evidence that the communication of the international application has duly taken place on the date of mailing indicated above and no copy of the international application is required to be furnished by the applicant to the designated Office(s).

2. The following designated Offices have waived the requirement for such a communication at this time:

BR,CA,CN,CZ,EP,MX,PL,ZA

The communication will be made to those Offices only upon their request. Furthermore, those Offices do not require the applicant to furnish a copy of the international application (Rule 49.1(a-bis)).

3. Enclosed with this Notice is a copy of the international application as published by the International Bureau on 21 September 2000 (21.09.00) under No. WO 00/55295

REMINDER REGARDING CHAPTER II (Article 31(2)(a) and Rule 54.2)

If the applicant wishes to postpone entry into the national phase until 30 months (or later in some Offices) from the priority date, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed with the competent International Preliminary Examining Authority before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date.

It is the applicant's sole responsibility to monitor the 19-month time limit.

Note that only an applicant who is a national or resident of a PCT Contracting State which is bound by Chapter II has the right to file a demand for international preliminary examination.

REMINDER REGARDING ENTRY INTO THE NATIONAL PHASE (Article 22 or 39(1))

If the applicant wishes to proceed with the international application in the national phase, he must, within 20 months or 30 months, or later in some Offices, perform the acts referred to therein before each designated or elected Office.

For further important information on the time limits and acts to be performed for entering the national phase, see the Annex to Form PCT/IB/301 (Notification of Receipt of Record Copy) and Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No. (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer J. Zahra Telephone No. (41-22) 338.83.38
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP00/01490

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int.Cl⁷ C12C13/00, C12C11/02, C12M1/06

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Int.Cl⁷ C12C13/00, C12C11/02, C12M1/06, B01F7/16, 7/18

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1926-1996 Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1994-2000
 Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971-2000 Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996-2000

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
P, X	WO, 99/13052, A1 (ASAHI BREWERIES LTD), 23 March, 1999 (23.03.99), Full text; Figs. 1 to 11 & JP, 11-075815, A	1-8
X	US, 5399014, A (SHINKO ELECTRIC CO LTD), 21 March, 1995 (21.03.95), Full text; Figs. 1 to 9 & JP, 5-49890, A	1-8
X	CD-ROM of the specification and drawings annexed to the request of Japanese Utility Model Application No.68914/1993 (Laid-open No.34928/1995), (Satake Kagaku Kikai Kogyo K.K.) 27 June, 1995 (27.06.95) Full text; Figs. 1-4 (Family: none)	1-8
X	JP, 8-281089, A (SUMITOMO HEAVY INDUSTRIES, LTD.), 29 August, 1996 (29.08.96), Full text; Figs. 1 to 12 (Family: none)	1-8

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not
considered to be of particular relevance"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing
date"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is
cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other
special reason (as specified)"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other
means"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later
than the priority date claimed"T" later document published after the international filing date or
priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to
understand the principle or theory underlying the invention"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be
considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive
step when the document is taken alone"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be
considered to involve an inventive step when the document is
combined with one or more other such documents, such
combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search
07 June, 2000 (07.06.00)Date of mailing of the international search report
20 June, 2000 (20.06.00)Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Japanese Patent Office

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP00/01490

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	JP, 9-285725, A (Nagata Jozo Kikai K.K.), 04 November, 1997 (04.11.97), Full text; Figs. 1 to 7 (Family: none)	1-8
A	JP, 5-30962, A (Toto Ltd.), 09 February, 1993 (09.02.93), Full text; Figs. 1 to 6 (Family: none)	1-8
A	EP, 698662, A2 (SHINETSU BIO INC), 28 February, 1996 (28.02.96), Full text; Figs. 1 to 23 & JP, 8224093, A & US, 5972695, A	1-8